Visa fraud racket in USA

1028. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an NRI in USA has been arrested for running a visa fraud racket;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any officers of passport/immigration office have been found involved in this racket;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against them; and

(e) the steps taken to plug loopholes in the system to prevent recurrence of such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. We have seen reports regarding arrest of one Narendra Mandalapa, an Indian citizen living in New Jersey on charges of fraud and misuse of visa violations. He is currently under the custody of United States Marshals Service. During investigations, it has been discovered that Mandalapa filed nearly 1000 fraudulent labour-based petitions on behalf of Indian and Pakistani nationals seeking entry into the US. Investigations reported to have uncovered that two shell companies in New Jersey owned by the Indian citizen were created solely to file labour-related petitions for foreign workers. The US Immigration and Customs authorities have seized his assete worth $ 5,794,£92 from his four bank accounts in New Jersey and two brokerage accounts in New York.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Since no officer of passport/immigration office of the Government of India was involved in this racket, the question of taking steps to plug loopholes does not arise.

Indian Areas in Nepal Map

† 1029. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Maoists residing in the Nepalese territory

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

have shown a large area of Indian land adjoining Nepal border as a part of Nepal;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIE. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) There are no reports suggesting that Nepali Maoists have been showing in maps a large area of Indian land adjoining Nepal border as a part of Nepal. However, the Governemnt is aware of reports that the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) have raised the issue of alleged Indian occupation of some Nepali territory, including Kalapani in some of their meetings.

The boundary between the two countries continues to be as primarily established on the basis of the Treaty of Sugauli of 1815 and the subsequent Memorandum of 1816 as amended and confirmed by the Treaty of 1860 between the British Indian Government and His Majesty's Government of Nepal (HMGN).

Violation of international border by pakistan

† 1030. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in violation of International border Pakistan has constructed a railway station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have registered its protest with Pakistan and Pakistan's reaction thereto;

(d) whether the rail-front at the border is a cover-up for Pakistani encroachment; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction and action thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No Sir. Pakistan has not constructed a railway station in violation of the international border.

(b) to (e) Do not arise,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.